

REMARKS

The request to participate in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program submitted on July 31, 2008 inadvertently failed to identify a relationship between the JPO application with similar claims (JP 2006-511197) and the application from which applicant claims priority (JP 2004-082527).

Applicants identify the relationship between JP 2006-511197 and JP 2004-082527 as follows:

The originally filed application in the present chain of applications was JP 2004-082527. A PCT application (PCT/JP2005/004620) was subsequently filed claiming priority to JP 2004-082527.

JP 2006-511197 was then filed as a national phase application based on PCT/JP2005/004620, which, as set forth above, claims priority to JP 2004-082527. A copy of the front page of Japanese Patent No. 3,908,781 and an English translation thereof is submitted herewith evidencing the same.

In view of the above, it is believed that the requirements for participation in the PPH program and the petition to make special are met. A favorable action on the request and petition are respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- front page of Japanese Patent No. 3,908,781 and English translation